



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW2101

August 20, 2001

Wet Weather Continues

Maryland received rain again last week, with significant amounts measured in southern parts of the state. As a result, farmers spent an average of 5.4 days on **field work**. Large amounts of precipitation were measured in the lower Eastern Shore with Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester counties receiving 2.9 inches, 2.8 inches, and 2.7 inches of rain respectively. Northern counties, like Harford County, received closer to 0.4 inches of rainfall.

Some vegetable damage was reported due to the wet weather conditions, especially in areas that received excessive rain. The flooded fields in these areas complicated melon harvest in particular. Fifty-eight percent of the **cantaloupes** have been harvested, 20 percent behind last year, and 21 percent behind the five year average. **Watermelons** are 39 percent harvested, 10 percent behind last year and 27 percent behind the average.

The recent rains from last week and the previous week have restored most areas to adequate or surplus amounts of soil moisture. **Topsoil moisture** is rated 21 percent surplus, 59 percent adequate, 19 percent short, and 1 percent very short. **Subsoil moisture** is now 7 percent surplus, 71 percent adequate, 14 percent short, and 8 percent very short.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 2001 (PERCENT)

| ITEM | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | LAST YEAR | AVERAGE 1996-2000 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Harvesting Progress: | | | | |
| Apples | 15 | 12 | 13 | 11 |
| Cantaloupes | 58 | 48 | 78 | 79 |
| Cucumbers | 69 | 65 | 73 | 78 |
| Peaches | 76 | 45 | 64 | 66 |
| Snap Beans | 76 | 65 | 70 | 68 |
| Sweet Corn | 68 | 55 | 79 | 74 |
| Tobacco | 38 | 21 | 33 | 30 |
| Tomatoes | 50 | 45 | 59 | 67 |
| Watermelons | 39 | 34 | 49 | 66 |
| Crop Progress: | | | | |
| Corn, dough | 68 | 59 | 67 | 57 |
| Corn, dent | 33 | 23 | 29 | 26 |
| Corn, mature | 15 | -- | 16 | 11 |
| Sorghum, headed | 80 | 62 | 85 | 86 |
| Sorghum, turning color | 5 | -- | 0 | 7 |
| Soybeans, bloomed | 68 | 56 | 78 | 81 |
| Soybeans, setting pods | 43 | 37 | 64 | 59 |
| Tobacco, topped | 63 | 52 | 71 | 72 |
| Hay Harvested: | | | | |
| Other hay, 3 rd cutting | 40 | 37 | 38 | 37 |
| Other hay, 4 th cutting | 18 | 15 | 9 | 5 |
| Alfalfa, 3 rd cutting | 81 | 75 | 69 | 66 |
| Alfalfa, 4 th cutting | 23 | 20 | 16 | 16 |

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 2001 (PERCENT)

| Condition | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Corn | 2 | 9 | 25 | 50 | 14 |
| Soybeans | 3 | 7 | 23 | 46 | 21 |
| Sorghum | 0 | 0 | 4 | 89 | 7 |
| Tobacco | 0 | 0 | 3 | 93 | 4 |
| Pasture | 4 | 16 | 40 | 26 | 14 |

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